## **CLAIMS**

## What is claimed is:

1	1.	In a digital communications network, a method comprising:
2		checking a multiplexed connection's bandwidth capacity to carry a call
3		over a link; and
4		overflowing the call onto a non-multiplexed connection, when the

- 5 multiplexing connection's bandwidth is insufficient to carry the call.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising sending the call over the
- 2 multiplexed connection when the multiplexed connection's bandwidth is sufficient
- 3 to carry the call.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein overflowing the call comprises:
- 2 adding a single non-multiplexed connection over the link per call;
- 3 transmitting the call over the non-multiplexed connection; and
- 4 tearing down the single non-multiplexed connection once the call is
- 5 completed.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the multiplexed connection is a
- 2 multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the non-multiplexed connection is a non-
- 2 multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.
- 1 6. An apparatus for use in a digital communication network, comprising:

2	means for checking a multiplexed connection's bandwidth capacity to		
3	carry a call over a link; and		
4	means for overflowing the call onto a non-multiplexed connection, wher	า	
5	the multiplexing connection's bandwidth is insufficient to carry the	е	
6	call.		
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1	7. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising means for sending the call	l	
2	over the multiplexed connection when the multiplexed connection's bandwidth	is	
3 sufficient to carry the call.			
1	8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the means for overflowing the call		
2	comprises:		
3	means for adding a single non-multiplexed connection over the link per		
4	call;		
5	means for transmitting the call over the non-multiplexed connection; and	d	
6	means for tearing down the single non-multiplexed connection once the	)	
7	call is completed.		
1	9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the multiplexed connection is a		
2	multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.		

- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the non-multiplexed connection is a non-multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.
- 1 11. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of
- 2 instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a computer, cause
- 3 said computer to perform the method of:

7		checking a multiplexed connection's bandwidth capacity to carry a call		
5		over a link; and		
6		overflowing the call onto a non-multiplexed connection, when the		
7		multiplexing connection's bandwidth is insufficient to carry the call.		
1	12.	The computer-readable medium of claim 11 having stored thereon		
2	addi	tional instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a		
3	com	outer, cause said computer to further perform the method of sending the call		
4	over the multiplexed connection when the multiplexed connection's bandwidth is			
5	sufficient to carry the call.			
1	13.	The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon		
2	addit	ional instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a computer		
3	for overflowing the call, cause said computer to further perform the method of:			
4		adding a single non-multiplexed connection over the link per call;		
5		transmitting the call over the non-multiplexed connection; and		
6		tearing down the single non-multiplexed connection once the call is		
7		completed.		
1	14.	The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the multiplexed		
2		connection is a multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.		
1	15.	The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the non-multiplexing		
2		connection is a non-multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.		
1	16.	A digital communication switch comprising:		
2		a processor coupled to a bus:		

- a storage device coupled to the bus storing instructions executed by the
- 4 processor; and
- 5 a buffer for storing voice data cells,
- 6 wherein the processor monitors the available bandwidth of a multiplexed
- 7 connection, receives a voice call, and routes the call according to the available
- 8 bandwidth.
- 1 17. The switch of claim 16, wherein the processor overflows the call onto a
- 2 non-multiplexed connection when the available bandwidth of the multiplexed
- 3 connection is insufficient to carry the call.
- 1 18. The switch of claim 17, wherein the processor sends the call over the
- 2 multiplexed connection when the available bandwidth of the multiplexed
- 3 connection is sufficient to carry the call.
- 1 19. The switch of claim 18, wherein the multiplexing connection is a
- 2 multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.
- 1 20. The switch of claim 19, wherein the non-multiplexing connection is a non-
- 2 multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.